

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for provisioning a telephone service feature, the method comprising:
 - 2 identifying a telephone service feature to be temporarily provisioned for the
 - 3 duration of a call;
 - 4 activating said identified telephone service feature; and
 - 5 deactivating said activated telephone service feature upon completion of said
 - 6 call.

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2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying step further comprises:
 - receiving a call request identifying a telephone service feature to be temporarily provisioned for the duration of a call; and
 - determining whether said identified telephone service feature can be provisioned.

- 1 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said activating step further comprises
 - 2 the step of allocating system resources to support said identified telephone service
 - 3 feature.
 - 1 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said activating step further comprises

2 allocating line interface circuits capable of providing said requested telephone service
3 feature to a subscriber.

1 5. The method according to claim 4, wherein said allocating step further comprises:

2 reserving a pool of resources for activating said identified telephone service
3 feature; and

4 selecting from said reserved pool of resources, an available resource capable of
5 processing said identified telephone service feature.

1 6. The method according to claim 5, wherein said selecting step further comprises
2 the step of multiplexing said available resource onto existing telephony service in order
3 to support said call request for said identified telephone service feature.

1 7. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of receiving said call request
2 further comprises:

3 providing a list of telephone service features to a party, said list comprising said
4 telephone service feature to be activated; and
5 selecting said telephone service feature to be provisioned from said provided list
6 of telephone service features.

1 8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said telephone service feature is a

2 feature selected from the group consisting of a caller ID feature, a three-way calling
3 feature, a call waiting feature, a call hold feature and a call forwarding feature.

1 9. A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having
2 a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the
3 machine to perform the steps of:

4 identifying a telephone service feature to be temporarily provisioned for the
5 duration of a call;

6 activating said identified telephone service feature; and

7 deactivating said activated telephone service feature upon completion of said
8 call.

10. The machine readable storage according to claim 9, wherein said identifying step
further comprises:

3 receiving a call request identifying a telephone service feature to be temporarily
4 provisioned for the duration of a call; and

5 determining whether said identified telephone service feature can be
6 provisioned.

11. The machine readable storage according to claim 10, wherein said activating
2 step further comprises the step of allocating system resources to support said identified

3 telephone service feature.

1 12. The machine readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said activating
2 step further comprises allocating line interface circuits capable of providing said
3 requested telephone service feature to a subscriber.

1 13. The machine readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said allocating
2 step further comprises:

3 reserving a pool of resources for activating said identified telephone service
4 feature; and

5 selecting from said reserved pool of resources, an available resource capable of
6 processing said identified telephone service feature.

1 14. The machine readable storage according to claim 13, wherein said selecting step
2 further comprises the step of multiplexing said available resource onto existing
3 telephony service in order to support said call request for said identified telephone
4 service feature.

1 15. The machine readable storage according to claim 10, wherein the step of
2 receiving said call request further comprises:

3 providing a list of telephone service features to a party, said list comprising said
4 telephone service feature to be activated; and

5 selecting said telephone service feature to be provisioned from said provided list
6 of telephone service features.

1 16. The machine readable storage according to claim 9, wherein said telephone
2 service feature is a feature selected from the group consisting of a caller ID feature, a
3 three-way calling feature, a call waiting feature, a call hold feature and a call forwarding
4 feature.

1 17. A system for temporarily provisioning a telephone service feature, the system
2 comprising:

3 a controller, said controller for receiving a call request identifying a telephone
4 service feature to be temporarily provisioned for a called subscriber terminal for the
5 duration of a call; and

6 an activator, said activator for activating said identified telephone service feature
7 to satisfy said received call request and deactivating said required telephone service
8 feature upon completion of said call.

1 18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said activator further comprises a
2 reserved pool of communication processing circuits controlled by said controller.

1 19. The system according to claim 18, wherein each of said communication
2 processing circuits further comprises a line interface circuit for providing said telephone

3 service feature.

1 20. The system according to claim 19, further comprising a common multiplexed bus
2 for connecting each of said line interface circuits to a transmission conduit.

1 21. The system according to claim 20, wherein said controller further comprises a
2 multiplexer for multiplexing communication signals from said line interface circuits onto
3 said common multiplexed bus.

22. A system for temporarily provisioning a telephone service feature, the system
comprising:

3 a communications controller for receiving a call request identifying a required
4 telephone service feature to be temporarily provisioned for a called subscriber terminal
5 for the duration of a call;

6 a pool of reserved communication processing circuits for activating and
7 deactivating said identified telephone service feature; and

8 a multiplexer for multiplexing an available communication processing circuit from
9 said pool of reserved communication processing circuits onto a transmission conduit
10 providing service to said called subscriber terminal.

1 23. The system according to claim 22, wherein said communications controller

2 further comprises circuits and program logic of determining an available communication
3 processing circuit from said pool of reserved communication processing circuits, and
4 allocating said available communication processing circuit for processing said
5 telephone service feature.

1 24. The system according to claim 23, further comprising a multiplexed bus for
2 communicating telephony signals between each of said communication processing
3 circuits and said called subscriber terminal through a transmission conduit.

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